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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

Verbakel et. al.

PHQ 98,017

Serial No.:

Art Unit:

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Examiner:

Title: A Method, Device, And Information Structure For Storing Audio-Centered Information With A Multi-Level Table-Of-Contents (TOC) Mechanism And Doubling Of Area-TOCs, A Device For Use With Such Mechanism And A Unitary Storage Medium Having Such Mechanism

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee please enter the following Amendment.

IN THE TITLE

Please cancel the title and substitute the following new Title:

"Storing Audio-Centered Information With A Multi-Level Table-Of-Contents (TOC) Mechanism Having Redundant Sub-TOCs"

IN THE DESCRIPTION

Please change the paragraph beginning on page 1, line <sup>2</sup> to read as follows.

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Storing digital audio on unitary media such as disc or tape is

widespread. In case of actual sub-division of the audio into multiple sub-items, providing a Table-of-Contents (TOC) allows to access the information in an easy manner. Such TOC will specify at least what has been stored and where it has been stored. The audio may be defined according to various standardized audio formats, such as two-channel stereo, multiple (5-6) channel audio such as in surround sound applications, and possibly others. An audio provider may wish to combine various track areas having the same and/or different such formats on a single medium such as an optical disc.

Please change the paragraph beginning on page 1, line <sup>11</sup>~~20~~ to read as follows.

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In consequence, amongst other things, it is an object of the present invention to allow an audio management system to allow a user to access various audio track areas in a fast and easy manner. A user is now able to distinguish between various track areas and to navigate among the various items of a single track area in a robust manner, and if possible, without encumbrance through data errors in the TOC itself.

Please change the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 5 to read as follows.

Figures 1a and 1b depict a record carrier of the invention;  
Figure 2 depicts a playback device of the invention;  
Figure 3 depicts a recording device of the invention;  
Figure 4 depicts a file system invention used in the record carrier of figure 1;  
Figure 5 depicts a storage arrangement invention for the record carrier of figure 1; and  
Figure 6 depicts a data structure invention for an audio area